

## Guterres Calls Global Action for Peace and Social Development



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At the UNDP Summit in Doha, Qatar, United Nations Secretary-General HE António Guterres called for urgent global action to address humanitarian crises, promote peace, and advance sustainable development. He highlighted conflicts in Sudan and Gaza while praising Qatar's role in humanitarian aid, education, and international peacemaking.

Guterres began by addressing the escalating crisis in Sudan, particularly in El-Fasher and surrounding areas of North Darfur. He described the situation as spiraling out of control, with civilians trapped under siege, facing hunger, disease, and violence. Reports indicate violations of international humanitarian law, including attacks on hospitals, gender-based and ethnic violence, and executions following the entry of the Rapid Support Forces. The Secretary-General urged an immediate end to hostilities, unimpeded humanitarian access, and a halt to the flow of weapons and fighters. He called on both the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces to engage with his Personal Envoy, Ramtane Lamamra, to negotiate a peaceful settlement. “It’s time for peace,” he said.

Turning to Gaza, Guterres stressed that all parties must respect the ceasefire and abide by the first phase of the peace agreement. He emphasized the urgent need for a political path to end the occupation, ensure Palestinians’ right to self-determination, and achieve a two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians to live in peace.

Guterres commended Qatar for its humanitarian support worldwide, advocacy for education—including girls’ education in Afghanistan—and hosting the multilateral Doha Process. He also highlighted Qatar’s peacemaking role, mediating the Gaza conflict and brokering the peace agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the M23 armed group,

stressing the importance of sustaining these agreements for stability.

Regarding the Second World Summit for Social Development, Guterres described the Doha Declaration as “a people’s plan” to accelerate progress in four areas: fighting poverty and inequality, creating jobs and skills opportunities, increasing development finance, and ensuring inclusivity for women, minorities, refugees, youth, and persons with disabilities. “Development is about building stronger societies that serve the many, not the few,” he said.

He concluded by urging world leaders to deliver on the Doha Political Declaration, ensuring justice, peace, and prosperity for all, while thanking Qatar for rallying the international community around these critical goals.